



August 18, 2015

FFY15 Funding

We are coming to the end of this current fiscal year. Please review the balance of your budgets to make sure you will be able to spend down your current contract.

If you think you will have a surplus of funding and will not be able to spend the remaining balance of your budget, please contact Kate Girard at the state office to discuss.

Reports Available

[Participation Report July 2015](#)

[Breastfeeding & Peer Counselor Report July 2015](#)

[Benefits Issued & Redeemed Report June 2015](#)

Formula Alert

The State Office has seen a sharp rise in participants redeeming concentrate formula for powdered formula. If this happens, we are unable to reimburse retailer and must try to get the participant to return the formula to the clinic so the retailer can recoup some of their lost funds. This is quite the burden on participants, clinic staff and retailers. Be very careful when issuing concentrate to participants and make sure they know the difference between the two types. Also, when issuing benefits, always make sure to give them a look before handing over to participants.

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Conference Call

The next conference call for the BPCP is August 27, 2015, at 9:00 am. Call-in information is on the [agenda](#).

Height, Weight, and Blood Data

Just to clarify some information from the local agency call, blood data up to 90 days old may be used. Height and weight data up to 60 days old may be used for certification or sub-certification. Chris misspoke about the height and weight data timeframe. Please refer to policy 5.2 in the State Plan for additional information.

Materials from Local Agencies

All local agencies please send any locally created materials (including outreach) which your local agency is using in your community. Please submit the materials by August 28th, 2015, to the State WIC Office via [email](#), fax 444-0239, or mail. Please include attention to Lacy Little. Thanks.

New Spirit Utilities Reports

To assist clinics with management of their High Risk participants, three new reports have been created. The report titles and descriptions are below. In Spirit Utilities, they are located under the General menu.

“High Risk Participant Count” – This report provides a county of how many high risk participants exist in a clinic or agency. The counts are broken out by WIC Category.

“High Risk Participants with Missed Appointments” – This report provides a list of high risk participants who missed their last appointments, as scheduled in Spirit.

“High Risk Participants with Upcoming Appointments” – This report provides a list of high risk participants who are still certified. If an appointment is scheduled (in Spirit), then the relevant information will display. If no appointment is scheduled, then the appointment information is blank. This should allow clinics to use the report even if they don’t schedule appointments in Spirit.

If you have any questions, please contact the WIC Help Desk (1-800-433-4298, opt. 1).

Feeding and Swallowing Disorders in Infancy—Optimizing Breastfeeding Success

SWAG is offering this course on feeding and swallowing disorders designed for lactation consultants, occupational and physical therapists, speech pathologists, nurses and other allied health professionals who specialize or have an interest in feeding disorders in infancy. The [brochure](#) provides more information.

Missoula Breastfeeding Education Conference

The Missoula Breastfeeding Coalition is hosting a Breastfeeding Education Conference with speaker Kittie Frantz on October 26th in Missoula. Review the conference [agenda](#) and [register now](#).

WICHealth

WICHealth.org is a great opportunity for our low risk participants to get nutrition education. There are lessons that cover Preparing for a Healthy Pregnancy, Introducing New Foods for Infants, How to Feed a Picky Eater, etc. The participant can complete the lesson of choice at home and have it emailed or bring it to the clinic. The [Client insert](#) has an updated lesson list that includes some lessons specific to Montana. Please give these to participants. If you would like to set up your clinics for WICHealth.org please contact Lacy Little at the State WIC Office: Phone: 444-5923 or email.

USDA prohibits discrimination in the administration of its programs

Help us keep the distribution list updated - send e-mail address changes, additions and deletions to the WIC State Office at 1-800-433-4298.

